

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Audited Financial Statements and Special Reports
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

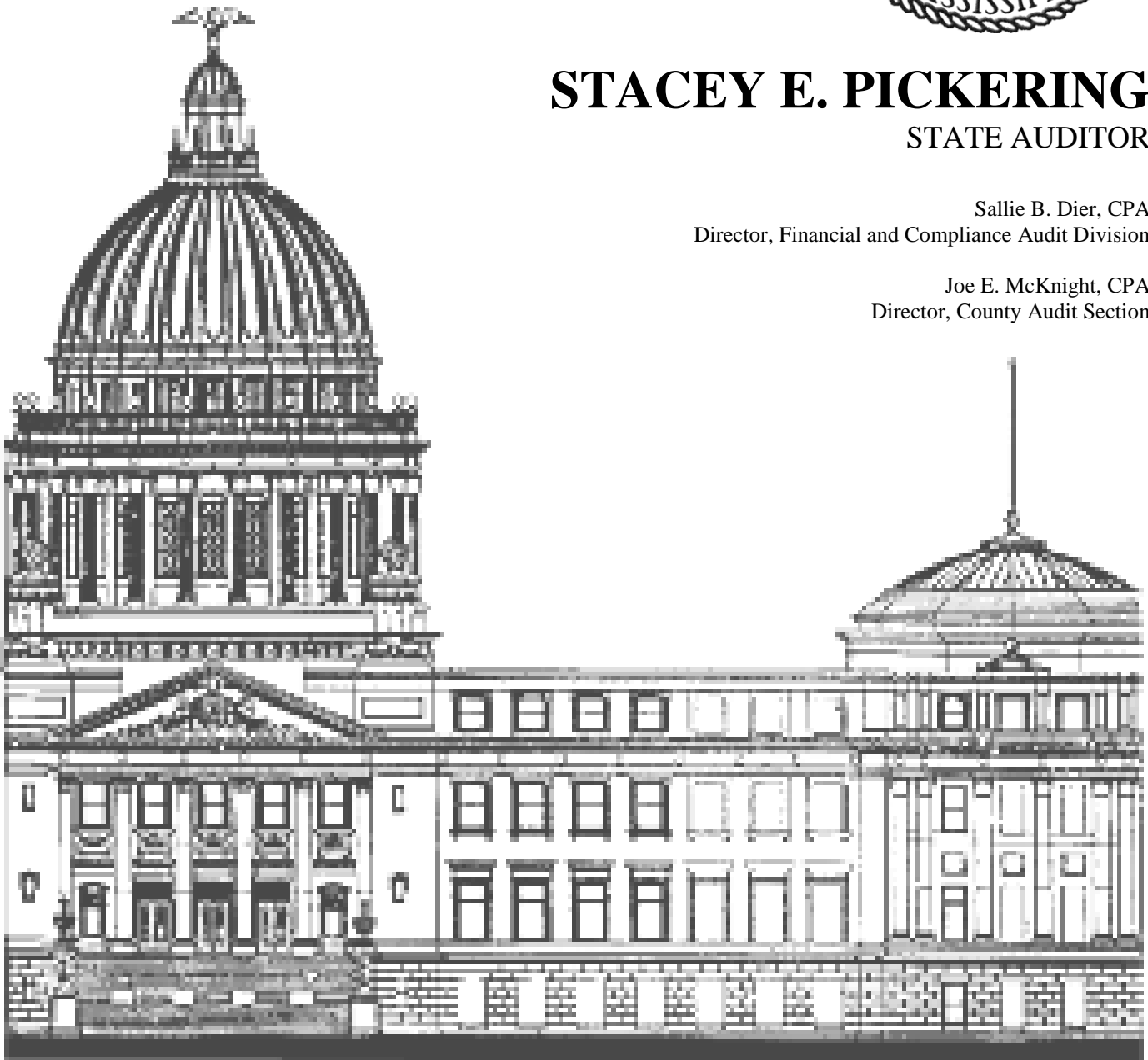


STACEY E. PICKERING

STATE AUDITOR

Sallie B. Dier, CPA
Director, Financial and Compliance Audit Division

Joe E. McKnight, CPA
Director, County Audit Section



A Report from the County Audit Section

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR

March 10, 2016

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

Dear Board Members:

I am pleased to submit to you the 2014 financial and compliance audit report for Montgomery County. This audit was performed pursuant to Section 7-7-211(e), Mississippi Code Ann. (1972). The audit was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

I appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended by the officials and employees of Montgomery County throughout the audit. Thank you for working to move Mississippi forward by serving as a supervisor for Montgomery County. If I or this office can be of any further assistance, please contact me or Joe McKnight of my staff at (601) 576-2674.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacey E. Pickering", is written over a horizontal line.

Stacey E. Pickering
State Auditor

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FINANCIAL SECTION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Montgomery County, Mississippi, (the County) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the County's primary government as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, as described in Note 1. This includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on the Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units

The financial statements do not include financial data for the County's legally separate component units. Accounting principles applicable to the County's cash basis of accounting require the financial data for those component units to be reported with the financial data of the County's primary government unless the County also issues financial statements for the financial reporting entity that include the financial data for its component units. The County has not issued such reporting entity financial statements. The amount by which this departure would affect the cash basis assets, net position, receipts and disbursements of the aggregate discretely presented component units is not reasonably determinable.

Adverse Opinion

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the "Basis for Adverse Opinion on the Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units" paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, the cash basis financial position of the aggregate discretely presented component units of Montgomery County, Mississippi, as of September 30, 2014, or the changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles applicable to the County's cash basis of accounting.

Unmodified Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to previously present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Montgomery County, Mississippi, as of September 30, 2014, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements which describes that Montgomery County, Mississippi prepares its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Report on Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Montgomery County, Mississippi's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedules, Schedule of Capital Assets, Schedule of Changes in Long-term Debt, Schedule of Surety Bonds for County Officials and corresponding notes have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on such information.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 10, 2016, on our consideration of Montgomery County, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Montgomery County, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe E. McKnight". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOE E. McKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

March 10, 2016

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
September 30, 2014

Exhibit 1

	<u>Primary Government</u>
	<u>Governmental</u>
	<u>Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 4,501,765
Total Assets	<u>4,501,765</u>
NET POSITION	
Restricted:	
Expendable:	
General government	596,589
Public safety	152,565
Public works	1,860,870
Health and welfare	597
Debt service	149,235
Unemployment compensation	13,450
Unrestricted	<u>1,728,459</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 4,501,765</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Exhibit 2

Functions/Programs	Program Cash Receipts				Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government Governmental Activities
Primary government:					
Governmental activities:					
General government	\$ 2,807,708	335,808	22,817		(2,449,083)
Public safety	1,136,197	157,903	186,244		(792,050)
Public works	2,069,774	296,906	932,703	66,023	(774,142)
Health and welfare	544,203		427,165		(117,038)
Culture and recreation	66,586		38,851		(27,735)
Education	143,351				(143,351)
Conservation of natural resources	80,506				(80,506)
Economic development and assistance	1,259,534		878,451		(381,083)
Debt service:					
Principal	121,672				(121,672)
Interest	26,027				(26,027)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 8,255,558	790,617	2,486,231	66,023	(4,912,687)
General receipts:					
Property taxes				\$ 3,840,534	
Road & bridge privilege taxes				116,616	
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs				305,130	
Unrestricted interest income				11,196	
Miscellaneous				236,956	
Proceeds from debt issuance				1,267,294	
Sale of county property				6,000	
Compensation for loss of county property				40,909	
Total General Receipts and Other Cash Sources				5,824,635	
Changes in Net Position				911,948	
Net Position - Beginning				3,589,817	
Net Position - Ending				\$ 4,501,765	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Exhibit 3

Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances - Governmental Funds

Governmental Funds

September 30, 2014

	<u>Major Funds</u>			
	<u>General</u>	<u>Unit System</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Road and Bridge</u>	<u>Governmental</u>	<u>Governmental</u>
		<u>Maintenance Fund</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>
ASSETS				
Cash	\$ 1,677,969	1,671,977	1,151,819	4,501,765
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,677,969</u>	<u>1,671,977</u>	<u>1,151,819</u>	<u>4,501,765</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Restricted for:				
General government	\$		596,589	596,589
Public safety			152,565	152,565
Public works		1,671,977	188,893	1,860,870
Health and welfare			597	597
Debt service			149,235	149,235
Unemployment compensation			13,450	13,450
Committed to:				
Public works			43,377	43,377
Assigned to:				
Culture and recreation			19,946	19,946
Unassigned	1,677,969		(12,833)	1,665,136
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,677,969</u>	<u>1,671,977</u>	<u>1,151,819</u>	<u>4,501,765</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Exhibit 4

Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances -
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

	Major Funds		Other	Total
	General	Unit System Road and Bridge Maintenance Fund	Governmental Funds	Governmental Funds
	Fund			
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 2,709,431	534,612	596,491	3,840,534
Road and bridge privilege taxes		116,616		116,616
Licenses, commissions and other receipts	136,252		3,412	139,664
Fines and forfeitures	132,491		46,042	178,533
Intergovernmental receipts	513,686	479,502	1,864,196	2,857,384
Charges for services			472,420	472,420
Interest income	8,202	1,681	1,313	11,196
Miscellaneous receipts	212,551	4,549	19,856	236,956
Total Receipts	3,712,613	1,136,960	3,003,730	7,853,303
DISBURSEMENTS				
General government	2,068,008		739,700	2,807,708
Public safety	800,868		335,329	1,136,197
Public works	13,791	901,394	1,154,589	2,069,774
Health and welfare	101,987		442,216	544,203
Culture and recreation			66,586	66,586
Education	143,351			143,351
Conservation of natural resources	80,506			80,506
Economic development and assistance	105,041		1,154,493	1,259,534
Debt service:				
Principal	22,696		98,976	121,672
Interest	2,903		23,124	26,027
Total Disbursements	3,339,151	901,394	4,015,013	8,255,558
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts over Disbursements	373,462	235,566	(1,011,283)	(402,255)
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from long-term debt issuance			1,267,294	1,267,294
Sale of county property	6,000			6,000
Compensation for loss of county property	40,909			40,909
Transfers in	31,754	9,978	224,062	265,794
Transfers out	(199,286)		(66,508)	(265,794)
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	(120,623)	9,978	1,424,848	1,314,203
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and other Cash Sources over Disbursements and other Cash Uses	252,839	245,544	413,565	911,948
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Beginning	1,425,130	1,426,433	738,254	3,589,817
Cash Basis Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 1,677,969	1,671,977	1,151,819	4,501,765

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

A. Financial Reporting Entity.

Montgomery County, Mississippi (the County), is a political subdivision of the State of Mississippi. The County is governed by an elected five-member Board of Supervisors. The financial statements of the County are presented on a cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. These accounting principles require Montgomery County to present these financial statements on the primary government and its component units which have significant operational or financial relationships with the County.

Management has chosen to omit from these financial statements the following component units which have significant operational or financial relationships with the County. Accordingly, the financial statements do not include the data of all of the County's component units necessary for reporting in accordance with accounting principles applicable to the County's cash basis of accounting.

- Tyler Holmes Hospital
- East Montgomery County Hospital
- Montgomery County Economic Development District

State law pertaining to county government provides for the independent election of county officials. The following elected and appointed officials are all part of the County legal entity and therefore are reported as part of the primary government financial statements.

- Board of Supervisors
- Chancery Clerk
- Circuit Clerk
- Justice Court Clerk
- Purchase Clerk
- Tax Assessor-Collector
- Sheriff

B. Basis of Presentation.

The County's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and a Statement of Activities – Cash Basis, fund financial statements and accompanying note disclosures which provide a detailed level of financial information.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information concerning the County as a whole. The statements include all nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts and other nonexchange receipts.

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the County at year-end. The Government-wide Statement of Activities – Cash Basis presents a comparison between direct disbursements and program receipts for each function or program of the County's governmental activities. Direct disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Taxes and other receipts not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the County, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general receipts of the County.

Fund Financial Statements:

Fund financial statements of the County are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be separate accounting entities. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, fund equity, receipts and disbursements. Funds are organized into governmental, and fiduciary. Major individual Governmental Funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column as Other Governmental Funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting.

The Government-wide, Governmental Funds and Fiduciary Funds financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. This basis of accounting involves the reporting of only cash and cash equivalents and the changes therein resulting from cash inflows (cash receipts) and cash outflows (cash disbursements) reported in the period in which they occurred. This cash basis of accounting differs from GAAP primarily because revenues (cash receipts) are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned and susceptible to accrual, and expenditures or expenses (cash disbursements) are recognized when paid rather than when incurred or subject to accrual.

The County reports the following major Governmental Funds:

General Fund - This fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

Unit System Road and Bridge Maintenance Fund - This fund is used to account for monies from specific sources that are restricted for road maintenance.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Special Revenue Funds - These funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific cash sources that are restricted or committed to disbursement for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Debt Service Funds - These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursement for principal and interest.

Capital Projects Funds - These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursement for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE

Agency Funds - These funds account for various taxes, deposits and other monies collected or held by the County, acting in the capacity of an agent, for distribution to other governmental units or designated beneficiaries.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

D. Account Classifications.

The account classifications used in the financial statements conform to the broad classifications recommended in *Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting* as issued in 2012 by the Government Finance Officers Association.

E. Deposits.

State law authorizes the County to invest in interest bearing time certificates of deposit for periods of fourteen days to one year with depositories and in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, State of Mississippi, or any county, municipality or school district of this state. Further, the County may invest in certain repurchase agreements.

Cash includes cash on hand, demand deposits, all certificates of deposit and cash equivalents, which are short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash (generally three months or less).

F. Equity Classifications.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in two components:

Restricted net position - Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position - All other net position not meeting the definition of "restricted."

Fund Financial Statements:

Fund balances for governmental funds are reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

Governmental fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned. The following are descriptions of fund classifications used by the County:

Restricted fund balance includes amounts that have constraints placed upon the use of the resources either by an external party or imposed by law through a constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

Committed fund balance includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by a formal action of the Board of Supervisors, the County's highest level of decision-making authority. This formal action is an order of the Board of Supervisors as approved in the board minutes.

Assigned fund balance includes amounts that are constrained by the County's intent to be used for a specific purpose, but are neither restricted nor committed. For governmental funds, other than the General Fund, this is the residual amount within the fund that is not classified as nonspendable and is neither restricted nor committed. Assignments of fund balance are created by the Assistant Comptroller.

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund. The General Fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds if disbursements paid for specific purposes exceeded the amounts restricted, committed or assigned to those purposes, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Fund Balance Flow Assumption:

When a disbursement is paid for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned or unassigned) resources are available, it is the County's general policy to use restricted resources first. When disbursements are paid for purposes for which unrestricted (committed, assigned and unassigned) resources are available, and amounts in any of these unrestricted classifications could be used, it is the County's general policy to spend committed resources first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts.

G. Property Tax Receipts.

Numerous statutes exist under which the Board of Supervisors may levy property taxes. The selection of authorities is made based on the objectives and responsibilities of the County. Restrictions associated with property tax levies vary with the statutory authority. The amount of increase in certain property taxes is limited by state law. Generally, this restriction provides that these tax levies shall produce no more than 110% of the amount which resulted from the assessments of the previous year.

The Board of Supervisors, each year at a meeting in September, levies property taxes for the ensuing fiscal year which begins on October 1. Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 of the current year, and personal property taxes become a lien on March 1 of the current year. Taxes on both real and personal property, however, are due on or before February 1 of the next succeeding year. Taxes on motor vehicles and mobile homes become a lien and are due in the month that coincides with the month of original purchase. All property taxes are recognized as receipts when collected.

(2) Deposits.

The carrying amount of the County's total deposits with financial institutions at September 30, 2014, was \$4,501,765, and the bank balance was \$5,055,532. The collateral for public entities' deposits in financial institutions is held in the name of the State Treasurer under a program established by the Mississippi State Legislature and is governed by Section 27-105-5, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). Under this program, the entity's funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the State Treasurer. Financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of a financial institution, the County will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County does not have a formal policy for custodial credit risk. However, the Mississippi State Treasurer manages that risk on behalf of the County. Deposits above FDIC coverage are collateralized by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the name of the Mississippi State Treasurer on behalf of the County.

(3) Interfund Transfers.

The following is a summary of interfund transfers at September 30, 2014:

Transfers In/Out:

Transfer In	Transfer Out	Amount
General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	\$ 31,754
Unit System Road and Bridge Maintenance Fund	General Fund	9,978
Other Governmental Funds	General Fund	189,308
Other Governmental Funds	Other Governmental Funds	34,754
Total		\$ <u>265,794</u>

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

The principal purpose of interfund transfers was to provide funds for operating expenses and allocate interest income to the proper fund. All interfund transfers were routine and consistent with the activities of the fund making the transfer.

(4) Claims and Judgments.

Risk Financing.

The County finances its exposure to risk of loss related to workers' compensation for injuries to its employees through the Mississippi Public Entity Workers' Compensation Trust, a public entity risk pool. The County pays premiums to the pool for its workers' compensation insurance coverage, and the participation agreement provides that the pool will be self-sustaining through member premiums. The retention for the pool is \$1,000,000 for each accident and completely covers statutory limits set by the Workers' Compensation Commission. Risk of loss is remote for claims exceeding the pool's retention liability. However, the pool also has catastrophic reinsurance coverage for statutory limits above the pool's retention, provided by Safety National Casualty Corporation, effective from January 1, 2014, to January 1, 2015. The pool may make an overall supplemental assessment or declare a refund depending on the loss experience of all the entities it insures.

(5) Contingencies.

Federal Grants - The County has received federal grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Entitlements to these resources are generally conditional upon compliance with the terms and conditions of grant agreements and applicable federal regulations, including the disbursements of resources for allowable purposes. The County may be responsible for any disallowances.

Litigation - The County is party to legal proceedings, many of which occur in the normal course of governmental operations. It is not possible at the present time to estimate ultimate outcome or liability, if any, of the County with respect to the various proceedings. However, the County's legal counsel believes that ultimate liability resulting from these lawsuits will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

(6) Joint Venture.

The County participates in the following joint venture:

Montgomery County is a participant with the City of Winona in a joint venture, authorized by Section 61-3-5, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), to operate the Winona-Montgomery County Airport Authority. The joint venture was created to construct, manage, control and operate the Winona-Montgomery County Airport and is governed by a five-member board of commissioners appointed as follows: Montgomery County, two; City of Winona, two; jointly, one. By contractual agreement, all costs of the airport shall be borne equally by both parties. The County contributed \$13,791 for maintenance and support of the airport in fiscal year 2014. Financial statements for the Winona-Montgomery County Airport Authority were not available.

(7) Jointly Governed Organizations.

The County participates in the following jointly governed organizations:

Region Six Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center/Life Help operates in a district composed of the counties of Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Montgomery and Sunflower. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors appoints one of the eight members of the board of commissioners. The County contributed \$22,598 for support of the center in fiscal year 2014.

North Central Planning and Development District operates in a district composed of the counties of Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Leflore, Montgomery and Yalobusha. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors appoints four of the 28 members of the district board of directors. The County contributed \$35,316 for the maintenance and support of the district in fiscal year 2014.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Holmes Community College operates in a district composed of the counties of Attala, Carroll, Choctaw, Grenada, Holmes, Madison, Montgomery, Webster and Yazoo. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors appoints two of the 22 members of the college board of trustees. The County contributed \$127,735 for maintenance and support of the college in fiscal year 2014.

Mid-Mississippi Regional Library System operates in a district composed of the counties of Attala, Holmes, Leake, Montgomery and Winston. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors appoints one of the five members of the library board of directors. The County contributed \$150,853 for maintenance and support of the library in fiscal year 2014.

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority IV operates in a district composed of the counties of Carroll, Choctaw, Clay, Grenada, Lowndes, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, Webster and Winston. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors appoints one of the nine members of the board of commissioners. The County did not contribute any funds to the authority in fiscal year 2014.

(8) Defined Benefit Pension Plan.

Plan Description. Montgomery County, Mississippi, contributes to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan. PERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by state law and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That information may be obtained by writing to Public Employees' Retirement System, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201-1005 or by calling 1-800-444-PERS.

Funding Policy. At September 30, 2014, PERS members were required to contribute 9% of their annual covered salary, and the County is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The rate at September 30, 2014 was 15.75% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of PERS members are established and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. The County's contributions (employer share only) to PERS for the years ending September 30, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$278,198, \$257,575 and \$231,745, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Federal Grantor/ Pass-through Grantor/ Program Title or Cluster	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development/Passed-through the Mississippi Development Authority			
Community development block grants/state's program and non-entitlement grants in Hawaii	14.228	1127-10-049-PF-01	\$ 293,958
Community development block grants/state's program and non-entitlement grants in Hawaii	14.228	1223-M 11-SG-280-208	330,051
Subtotal			<u>624,009</u>
Home investment partnerships program*	14.239	1223-M 11-SG-280-208	<u>391,391</u>
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			<u>1,015,400</u>
U.S. Department of Justice/Passed-through the Mississippi Department of Public Safety			
ARRA - Violence against women formula grants	16.588	10SP1493	1,158
ARRA - Violence against women formula grants	16.588	12SP1491	49,699
ARRA - Violence against women formula grants	16.588	13SP1491	15,439
Subtotal			<u>66,296</u>
Edward Byrne memorial justice assistance grant program	16.738	12LB1491	<u>27,035</u>
Total U.S. Department of Justice			<u>93,331</u>
U.S. Department of Transportation-Federal Highway Administration/ Passed-through the Mississippi Department of Transportation			
Highway planning and construction	20.205	BR NBIS 079 B(49)	<u>25,790</u>
U.S. Department of Transportation-National Highway Traffic Safety Administration/Passed-through the Mississippi Department of Public Safety			
Alcohol open container requirements	20.607	13-TA-149-1	3,642
Alcohol open container requirements	20.607	14-ST-149-1	43,145
Subtotal			<u>46,787</u>
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			<u>72,577</u>

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Federal Grantor/ Pass-through Grantor/ Program Title or Cluster	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures
Appalachian Regional Commission/Passed-through the Tennessee Valley Authority			
Appalachian area development*	23.002	6487	165,757
Appalachian research, technical assistance, and demonstration projects*	23.011	6553	<u>337,894</u>
Total Appalachian Regional Commission			<u>503,651</u>
U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Passed-through the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency			
Emergency management performance grant	97.042	12EMPL00	3,800
Emergency management performance grant	97.042	14EMPG	<u>11,446</u>
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			<u>15,246</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ <u><u>1,700,205</u></u>

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

Note A - Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

* Denotes major federal award program

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

OTHER INFORMATION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 General Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 2,675,965	2,709,431	2,709,431	
Licenses, commissions and other receipts	106,141	136,252	136,252	
Fines and forfeitures	132,722	132,491	132,491	
Intergovernmental receipts	258,414	513,686	513,686	
Interest income	16,600	8,202	8,202	
Miscellaneous receipts	151,567	212,551	212,551	
Total Receipts	<u>3,341,409</u>	<u>3,712,613</u>	<u>3,712,613</u>	<u>0</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Current:				
General government	2,121,783	2,068,008	2,068,008	
Public safety	841,645	800,868	800,868	
Public works	13,210	13,791	13,791	
Health and welfare	136,245	101,987	101,987	
Culture and recreation	21,754			
Education		143,351	143,351	
Conservation of natural resources	81,935	80,506	80,506	
Economic development and assistance	99,966	105,041	105,041	
Debt service:				
Principal		22,696	22,696	
Interest		2,903	2,903	
Total Disbursements	<u>3,316,538</u>	<u>3,339,151</u>	<u>3,339,151</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	<u>24,871</u>	<u>373,462</u>	<u>373,462</u>	<u>0</u>
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Other financing sources	330,181	78,663	78,663	
Other financing uses	(611,381)	(199,286)	(199,286)	
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	<u>(281,200)</u>	<u>(120,623)</u>	<u>(120,623)</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(256,329)	252,839	252,839	
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>1,364,000</u>	<u>1,425,130</u>	<u>1,425,130</u>	
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 1,107,671</u>	<u>1,677,969</u>	<u>1,677,969</u>	<u>0</u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
 Unit System Road and Bridge Maintenance Fund
 For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
 UNAUDITED

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Property taxes	\$ 514,122	534,612	534,612	
Road and bridge privilege taxes	106,000	116,616	116,616	
Intergovernmental receipts	496,000	479,502	479,502	
Interest income		1,681	1,681	
Miscellaneous receipts	6,500	4,549	4,549	
Total Receipts	<u>1,122,622</u>	<u>1,136,960</u>	<u>1,136,960</u>	<u>0</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Current:				
Public works	<u>1,262,846</u>	<u>901,394</u>	<u>901,394</u>	
Total Disbursements	<u>1,262,846</u>	<u>901,394</u>	<u>901,394</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Receipts over (under) Disbursements	<u>(140,224)</u>	<u>235,566</u>	<u>235,566</u>	<u>0</u>
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in		9,978	9,978	
Total Other Cash Sources and Uses	<u>0</u>	<u>9,978</u>	<u>9,978</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(140,224)	245,544	245,544	
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>1,400,000</u>	<u>1,426,433</u>	<u>1,426,433</u>	
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ <u><u>1,259,776</u></u>	<u><u>1,671,977</u></u>	<u><u>1,671,977</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this schedule.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Capital Assets
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
UNAUDITED

Governmental activities:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2013	Additions	Deletions	Adjustments *	Balance Sept. 30, 2014
Land	\$ 211,973				211,973
Construction in progress	299,425	1,165,100		(203,912)	1,260,613
Infrastructure	7,402,524			203,912	7,606,436
Buildings	5,651,612				5,651,612
Mobile equipment	3,402,132	78,803	77,270		3,403,665
Furniture and equipment	621,692	22,828	92,982		551,538
Total capital assets	\$ 17,589,358	1,266,731	170,252	0	18,685,837

* The adjustment column includes reclassification of completed construction projects transferred to infrastructure.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Changes in Long-term Debt
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
UNAUDITED

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities and obligations for the year ended September 30, 2014:

Description and Purpose	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Oct. 1, 2013	Issued	Principal Payments	Balance Sept. 30, 2014
Governmental Activities:							
A. General Obligation Bonds:							
Coliseum stalls	11/2008	10/2022	4.25%	\$ 149,000		14,000	135,000
DHS Justice Court building	03/2010	03/2024	4.10%	331,000		24,000	307,000
General obligation public improvement bonds	03/2014	02/2034	3.00/4.00%		1,000,000		1,000,000
B. Other Loans:							
MDA Cap Loan - Multi-purpose building	06/1999	07/2014	3.00%	17,839		17,839	
MDA Cap Loan - Mental Health building	06/2003	05/2022	3.00%	57,015		4,857	52,158
E-911 loan	08/2011	08/2016	1.99%	186,593		60,976	125,617
MDA Cap Loan - Screw Conveyor	06/2012	06/2032	3.00%	16,607	267,294 *		283,901
Total				\$ 758,054	1,267,294	121,672	1,903,676

* Montgomery County was approved for a MDA Cap Loan on June 12, 2012 for \$320,173. This loan is part of a financing package to do repairs and renovations to a county industrial building. At September 30, 2014, Montgomery County had drawn down \$283,901 of the available funds.

The accompanying notes to the Other Information are an integral part of this statement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Surety Bonds for County Officials
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
UNAUDITED

Name	Position	Company	Bond
Keith McGee	Supervisor District 1	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Kenneth Ware	Supervisor District 2	The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company	\$100,000
Lindsey Roberts, Jr.	Supervisor District 3	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
James Ronald Wood, Jr.	Supervisor District 4	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Nelson Forrest	Supervisor District 5	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Talmage "Tee" Golding	County Administrator	The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company	\$100,000
Talmage "Tee" Golding	Chancery Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Talmage "Tee" Golding	Purchase Clerk	The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company	\$75,000
Terri L. Wilson	Receiving Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$75,000
Debbie Crenshaw	Assistant Receiving Clerk	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
Joy Wilkerson	Assistant Receiving Clerk	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
Talmage "Tee" Golding	Inventory Control Clerk	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$75,000
Patsy Barton	Assistant Inventory Control Clerk	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
Chris Breazeale	Road Manager	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
L.C. Smith	Constable	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Jerry Dale Bridges	Constable	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Lanelle G. Martin	Circuit Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Lesa Carole Goldman	Deputy Circuit Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Jerry C. "Bubba" Nix	Sheriff	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Larry Edward Bamberg	Justice Court Judge	The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company	\$50,000
Keith S. Roberts	Justice Court Judge	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Karen T. Carter	Justice Court Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Florence C. Miers	Deputy Justice Court Clerk	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
Kellie Tate	Deputy Justice Court Clerk	Western Surety Company	\$50,000
Velma Young	Tax Assessor-Collector	Western Surety Company	\$100,000
Sharon Pyron	Deputy Tax Collector	The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company	\$50,000
Mary Breanna Baily	Deputy Tax Collector	State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company	\$50,000
Monica S. Turner	Deputy Tax Collector	Old Republic Surety Company	\$50,000

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Notes to the Other Information
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014
UNAUDITED

(1) Budgetary Comparison Information.

A. Budgetary Information.

Statutory requirements dictate how and when the County's budget is to be prepared. Generally, in the month of August, prior to the ensuing fiscal year beginning each October 1, the Board of Supervisors of the County, using historical and anticipated fiscal data and proposed budgets submitted by the Sheriff and the Tax Assessor-Collector for his or her respective department, prepares an original budget for each of the Governmental Funds for said fiscal year. The completed budget for the fiscal year includes for each fund every source of receipt, each general item of disbursement, and the unencumbered cash and investment balances. When during the fiscal year it appears to the Board of Supervisors that budgetary estimates will not be met, it may make revisions to the budget.

The County's budget is prepared principally on the cash basis of accounting. All appropriations lapse at year end, and there are no encumbrances to budget because state law does not require that funds be available when goods or services are ordered, only when payment is made.

B. Basis of Presentation.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget and Actual presents the original legally adopted budget, the final legally adopted budget, actual amounts on a budgetary basis and variances between the final budget and the actual amounts. The schedule is presented for the General Fund and each major Special Revenue Fund.

(2) Long-term Debt information:

- A. Legal Debt Margin - The amount of debt, excluding specific exempted debt that can be incurred by the County is limited by state statute. Total outstanding debt during a year can be no greater than 15% of assessed value of the taxable property within the County, according to the then last completed assessment for taxation. However, the limitation is increased to 20% whenever a county issues bonds to repair or replace washed out or collapsed bridges on the public roads of the county. As of September 30, 2014, the amount of outstanding debt was equal to 2.51% of the latest property assessments.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SPECIAL REPORTS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Montgomery County, Mississippi, (the County) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 10, 2016. Our report includes an adverse opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component units due to the omission of the discretely presented component units which are required by accounting principles applicable to the County's cash basis of accounting to be reported with the financial data of the County's primary government unless the County also issues financial statements for the financial reporting entity that include the financial data for its component units.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Montgomery County, Mississippi's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as 2014-001, 2014-005, 2014-006 and 2014-007 to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as 2014-002, 2014-003 and 2014-004 to be significant deficiencies.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Montgomery County, Mississippi's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the management of Montgomery County, Mississippi, in the Limited Internal Control and Compliance Review Management Report dated March 10, 2016, included within this document.

Montgomery County's Responses to Findings

Montgomery County's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Montgomery County's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe E. McKnight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

JOE E. McKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

March 10, 2016



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133**

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Montgomery County, Mississippi's (the County) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2014. Montgomery County, Mississippi's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Montgomery County, Mississippi's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Montgomery County, Mississippi's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Montgomery County, Mississippi's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Montgomery County, Mississippi, complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2014.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Montgomery County, Mississippi, is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Montgomery County, Mississippi's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures

that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe E. McKnight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

JOE E. McKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

March 10, 2016



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON CENTRAL PURCHASING SYSTEM,
INVENTORY CONTROL SYSTEM AND PURCHASE CLERK SCHEDULES
(REQUIRED BY SECTION 31-7-115, MISS. CODE ANN. (1972))**

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

We have examined Montgomery County, Mississippi's (the County) compliance with establishing and maintaining a central purchasing system and inventory control system in accordance with Sections 31-7-101 through 31-7-127, Miss. Code Ann. (1972) and compliance with the purchasing requirements in accordance with the bid requirements of Section 31-7-13, Miss. Code Ann. (1972) during the year ended September 30, 2014. The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Mississippi is responsible for the County's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with those requirements and performing other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with specified requirements. The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Mississippi, has established centralized purchasing for all funds of the County and has established an inventory control system. The objective of the central purchasing system is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that purchases are executed in accordance with state law.

Because of inherent limitations in any central purchasing system and inventory control system, errors or irregularities may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any current evaluation of the system to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Montgomery County, Mississippi, complied, in all material respects, with state laws governing central purchasing, inventory and bid requirements for the year ended September 30, 2014.

The accompanying schedules of (1) Purchases Not Made from the Lowest Bidder, (2) Emergency Purchases and (3) Purchases Made Noncompetitively from a Sole Source are presented in accordance with Section 31-7-115, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). The information contained on these schedules has been subjected to procedures performed in connection with our aforementioned examination of the purchasing system and, in our opinion, is fairly presented when considered in relation to that examination.

This report is intended for use in evaluating the central purchasing system and inventory control system of Montgomery County, Mississippi, and is not intended to be and should not be relied upon for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe E. McKnight". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOE E. McKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

March 10, 2016

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule 1

Schedule of Purchases Not Made From the Lowest Bidder
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Our test results did not identify any purchases from other than the lowest bidder.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Schedule of Emergency Purchases
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Schedule 2

Our test results did not identify any emergency purchases.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule 3

Schedule of Purchases Made Noncompetitively From a Sole Source
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Our test results did not identify any purchases made noncompetitively from a sole source.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STACEY E. PICKERING
AUDITOR**

LIMITED INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE REVIEW MANAGEMENT REPORT

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Montgomery County, Mississippi

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Montgomery County, Mississippi (the County) for the year ended September 30, 2014, we considered Montgomery County, Mississippi's internal control to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

In addition, for areas not considered material to Montgomery County, Mississippi's financial reporting, we have performed some additional limited internal control and state legal compliance review procedures as identified in the state legal compliance audit program issued by the Office of the State Auditor. Our procedures were substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on the County's compliance with these requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. This report does not affect our report dated March 10, 2016, on the financial statements of Montgomery County, Mississippi.

Due to the reduced scope, these review procedures and compliance tests cannot and do not provide absolute assurance that all state legal requirements have been complied with. Also, our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters within the internal control that might be weaknesses. In accordance with Section 7-7-211, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), the Office of the State Auditor, when deemed necessary, may conduct additional procedures and tests of transactions for this or other fiscal years to ensure compliance with legal requirements.

The results of our review procedures and compliance tests identified certain immaterial instances of noncompliance with state laws and regulations. Our findings, recommendations, and your responses are disclosed below:

Board of Supervisors.

1. The County should replace obsolete computer hardware and software.

Finding

The County is running operating systems as well as applications on some of its servers and/or personal computers (PCs) that might not be supported by vendors. Due to the lack of such support, these systems could become vulnerable to hackers and malware such as viruses.

Recommendation

We recommend that the County develop a plan to replace the operating systems, applications, and hardware where necessary that is no longer supported by vendors as soon as possible. Computers that originally included operating systems or applications that are no longer supported by vendors will have hardware that most likely cannot run the newest operating systems or applications, thereby requiring replacement of hardware, operating systems and applications in many cases.

Board of Supervisors' Response

Ten (10) computers with the obsolete non-supported, non-updated, Windows XP operating system have been replaced with computers running Microsoft Windows 7 or higher operating system. Windows and other integrated software such as Java, Adobe, etc. are set to automatically update. Also, the County's IT support, North Central Planning and Development, will perform random checks to ensure the devices are updating as expected. This was completed as of 7/7/2015.

2. The County should improve its System Security Event Management.

Finding

Regulatory compliance oftentimes requires that a covered organization develop a standard-based framework to provide for monitoring for system security events. In fact, the State of Mississippi, like most states, has a data breach law which has been in effect since July 1, 2011.

At present, the County does not have adequate network intrusion detection systems or methods to efficiently and/or easily monitor server logs for key security related events. Therefore, monitoring of key logs for key security events is not being sufficiently performed.

Intrusion detection is widely defined as the process of discovering unauthorized use of computers and networks. Intrusion detection requires gathering information about the actions of users and programs. The resulting information can then be analyzed either by individuals or by programs (usually programs that run as part of intrusion detection systems ("IDS's")) that are specially crafted to analyze such information.

Many major data breaches have persisted over a significant length of time (possibly months) before being detected, thus allowing the unauthorized transfer of very large amounts of data outside the organization without being detected. Therefore, it is imperative that entities have a Breach Recovery Plan in place in addition to retain logs of system security events for a sufficient amount of time to allow possible data breaches to be analyzed properly. The ever changing threat environment requires that entities continuously evaluate threats and risks to their data assets and adjust their protection scheme accordingly.

The very nature of attacker methods has morphed from viruses embedded in email attachments to threats that use the platforms and applications with which we have become very comfortable (social media, blogs, file transfer apps, etc.) as vectors to introduce malware. In addition, they use the very technologies that we depend upon to protect ourselves from threats (SSL encryption, port restrictions, etc.) to hide themselves. To further illustrate the sophistication of malware today it many times has the capability to communicate from the inside of an infected network back to the remote attacker outside.

Recommendation

We recommend the County review its current risk environment and develop a plan for monitoring and managing key security events consistent with regulatory compliance objectives as well as the evolution of threats to information assets.

Board of Supervisors' Response

The firewall installed on the County network has intrusion detection and blocking capabilities that are switched on with logging. The threats detected by the firewall appliance can be classified into several categories associated by risk. NCPDD will receive immediately via email and investigate any high risk critical detections and monitor via email all other classifications for any suspected trends. The logs will be retained for audit purposes.

In addition the County has purchased and implemented the enterprise anti-virus/anti-malware product, Sophos. Sophos provides, besides anti-virus, protection against malware programs, unauthorized downloads, and has content filtering tailored to the needs of the facility. The product is centrally administered so that users cannot disable or change settings. Logging is available. The protection provided by the firewall and Sophos are active. Logs will be setup by September 1, 2015.

3. The County should perform a network security assessment.

Finding

Factors noted during the Information Technology General Control (ITGC) assessment at the county indicate a network assessment is warranted.

Best business practices as well as standards for information technology provide various guidelines for frequency and criteria for performing network access reviews. The Mississippi Enterprise Security Policy requires network access reviews be performed, at minimum, every three years or more frequently whenever business situations change that might raise the level of risk for unauthorized access to an entity's data assets. Examples of such change criteria would be:

- A major change in the network topology
- Implementation of new financial applications
- Length of time since the last network access review
- Recent network penetration or malware infection (and possible data loss) due to the activity of unauthorized parties
- Changes in support levels for hardware and software
- Lack of security event monitoring
- Insufficient anti-virus

Network reviews should include vulnerability scans as well as penetration tests. A vulnerability scan or assessment looks for known vulnerabilities in your systems and reports potential exposures, many times in the form of a risk assessment. A penetration test is designed to actually exploit weaknesses in the architecture of systems.

Hacks into networks, especially internet facing networks, are a common occurrence in today's information technology environment. Data breaches can cost breached entities fines, regulatory oversight, bad public relations, customer distrust and personnel time to correct issues caused by unauthorized access. Consequences can be both short-term (e.g., notification of breached parties) and long-term (e.g., lawsuits).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County perform a network access review as soon as possible. All factors that might increase the risk of unauthorized access to an entity's data assets should be considered when determining the exact scope of the network access review to be performed. This review should consist of risk assessments, vulnerability scans and penetration tests. These type tests should be conducted by qualified personnel that specialize in such assessments.

Board of Supervisors' Response

NCPDD will perform and document risk assessments on a yearly basis or when changes in network infrastructure, new applications, vendor support, and if anti-virus/malware results indicate a need more frequently. NCPDD will coordinate with third party vendors specializing in vulnerability and penetration scans every three years. An initial risk, vulnerability, and penetration test will be conducted by November 1, 2015.

4. The County should improve its server room environment management.

Finding

The County's computer room is not a dedicated room with limited, controlled access and proper environmental equipment for electronic equipment. The room is secure in that there are people working during business hours in and around the computer. However, the computer is in the open and has the potential to be accessed by unauthorized personnel. Although the room does have air conditioning it does not have monitoring equipment for other conditions that can have an adverse effect on electronic equipment.

Recommendation

We recommend that the County establish an area specifically for computerized equipment that can be locked and provisioned with environmental control and monitoring equipment in relation to heat, humidity, and other conditions that might affect computerized equipment. This equipment should also have the capability to notify the proper personnel when these conditions vary outside of preset ranges. A log should also be maintained of visitors entering and exiting the computer room. In addition, access reviews should be completed on a periodic basis to determine that only authorized personnel have access to the computer room. Documentation of visitors to the computer room as well as periodic access reviews should be maintained for review by audit personnel.

Board of Supervisors' Response

The network rack that contains the facility cable panel, system switches, firewall device and other network devices including the IBM server will be enclosed in a server network cabinet with a locking door. In addition the room containing the cabinet will be locked and only accessed by staff and authorized personnel. Logs will be maintained of non-staff who enter the room and cabinet. In addition, a monitoring device will be installed to provide temperature, humidity, and airflow monitoring with alert and log capability. Estimate of completion is from October 1, 2015 until December 1, 2015.

Chancery Clerk.

5. Chancery Clerk should ensure that no checks are written on a fund when cash is not available.

Finding

Section 19-13-43, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), prohibits warrants from being signed or delivered by the clerk until there is sufficient money in the fund upon which it is drawn to pay the same. During audit test work, we noted that one fund had a negative cash balance as of September 30, 2014. Failure to have sufficient cash balances in these funds prior to writing checks resulted in other funds' cash being used for purposes other than their intended purpose.

Recommendation

The Chancery Clerk should ensure that no checks are written on a fund when cash is not available.

Chancery Clerk's Response

We were waiting for money to come in and once the money was received we put the money in the proper place. We will not do this anymore.

6. The Chancery Clerk should only receive \$1 for the first mailing of a delinquent tax notice.

Finding

Section 27-43-3(c), Miss. Code Ann. (1972), states that for mailing the notice and noting that action on the tax sales record, a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) may be allowed by the Chancery Clerk. Due to an error in the Chancery Clerk's computer software for preparing land redemption releases, the Chancery Clerk was collecting a fee of three dollars (\$3.00) for mailing the first delinquent tax notice. Failure to inspect land redemption releases for proper fee collections could result in an overpayment of fees to the Chancery Clerk.

Recommendation

The Chancery Clerk should only collect one dollar (\$1.00) for mailing the first delinquent tax notice.

Chancery Clerk's Response

I will get with the software provider and correct the problem immediately.

Sheriff.

7. The Sheriff's Office settlement of collections was not made on a monthly basis.

Finding

Section 19-25-13, Miss. Code Ann. (1972), requires the Sheriff to settle all collections of fees and charges to the County monthly. August and September settlements were not made timely. Failure to settle collections timely could result in the loss of public funds.

Recommendation

The Sheriff should settle all collections monthly, as required by law.

Sheriff's Response

The Sheriff's Office did not settle in August and September due to having to change banks, which caused us to not have checks and deposit slips. The funds were locked in a locked bag in a locked cabinet until deposit slips were received. Once deposits were made and bank statements were reviewed and reconciled, the settlements were made with the new checks. The Sheriff's Office will comply with the recommendation.

Montgomery County's responses to the findings included in this report were not audited, and accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Supervisors, and others within the entity and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.



JOE E. McKNIGHT, CPA
Director, County Audit Section

March 10, 2016

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Section 1: Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements:

- | | | |
|----|---|------------|
| 1. | Type of auditor's report issued: | |
| | Governmental activities | Unmodified |
| | Aggregate discretely presented component units | Adverse |
| | General Fund | Unmodified |
| | Unit System Road and Bridge Maintenance Fund | Unmodified |
| | Aggregate remaining fund information | Unmodified |
| 2. | Internal control over financial reporting: | |
| | a. Material weaknesses identified? | Yes |
| | b. Significant deficiencies identified? | Yes |
| 3. | Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? | No |

Federal Awards:

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 4. | Internal control over major federal programs: | |
| | a. Material weakness identified? | No |
| | b. Significant deficiency identified? | None Reported |
| 5. | Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major federal programs: | Unmodified |
| 6. | Any audit finding(s) disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section ____510(a) of OMB Circular A-133? | No |
| 7. | Identification of major federal programs: | |
| | a. CFDA# 14.239, Home investment partnerships program | |
| | b. CFDA # 23.002, Appalachian area development | |
| | c. CFDA # 23.011, Appalachian research, technical assistance, and demonstration projects | |
| 8. | Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: | \$300,000 |
| 9. | Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? | No |

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Section 2: Financial Statement Findings

Board of Supervisors.

Material Weakness

2014-001. An adequate system of internal control over payroll procedures should be implemented.

Finding

An effective system of internal control over the county payroll should include proper segregation of duties, proper authorization of payroll and documentation for all withholdings, deductions, leave and hours worked. Inadequate controls exist in the payroll function. The employment and salaries of county employees are not filed in the individual personnel files. This is due to a lack of segregation of duties and management oversight. Without proper controls, inaccurate payroll checks could be processed.

Recommendation

Documentation for all payroll and employment status changes should be kept in each individual personnel file.

Board of Supervisors' Response

I plan on making a list of all county employees' current salaries and placing this list on the board minutes. Also a copy of which will be placed in the proper personal file. When and if a change occurs to any employees salary a copy of this board order will be placed in that employee's personal file.

Significant Deficiency

2014-002. The County should expire all individual passwords on a periodic basis.

Finding

A review of the County's security settings revealed that user's passwords were not set to expire on a more frequent basis as recommended in best business practices. All passwords should be set to expire in accordance with policy to be determined by the County using best business practices guidelines.

Recommendation

We recommend that a policy be implemented to insure that passwords are expired on a regular basis. In addition the County should conduct access reviews for information assets on a periodic basis (at least annually). Documentation of these reviews should be signed by the person conducting them and retained for review by auditors.

Board of Supervisors' Response

A password policy to change passwords every 90 days will be enforced on the computer Windows logins and for the IBM iSystems login to Data Systems programs. Completion is expected by October 1, 2015.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Significant Deficiency

2014-003. The County should establish and test a disaster recovery process.

Finding

As reported in the prior year audit report, we noted that the County has not established a disaster recovery process. As a result, Montgomery County cannot fully ensure that the County's information systems can be restored in a timely manner. Disaster recovery involves defining and documenting plans to help sustain and recover critical information technology resources, information systems, and associated business functions. *Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology* (CobiT, Section DS4), as well as recognized industry best practices, require a written disaster recovery plan be developed and tested regularly to provide orderly recovery of vital functions in the event of a hardware or environmental disaster. Failure to maintain an adequate recovery plan could impede the County's ability to regain computer operations in the event of a disaster.

There are a number of steps that an organization can take to prevent or minimize the damage to automated operations that may occur from unexpected events. One example is routinely backing up data files and programs and periodically restoring these files and programs as part of a formal, documented disaster recovery exercise. Such actions maintain the organization's ability to restore data files, which may be impossible to recreate.

Montgomery County is currently using an automated system to perform daily back-ups of the AS400, but is not restoring such files as part of a formal, documented disaster recovery exercise. Without proper assurance that back-up files can be utilized to adequately restore all critical data in a timely manner in the event of disaster scenario, material damage could be realized by the County and its processes should a catastrophic event occur involving the County's building and servers. Risk and probabilities of material loss escalates in relationship to the longer an exposure goes unmitigated.

Recommendation

We recommend that Montgomery County develop, implement, and test a plan to ensure that critical data and applications are recoverable in case of a disaster scenario. We further recommend that Montgomery County develop and implement a disaster recovery plan documenting procedures to be followed during an emergency. Once the plan is completed, it should be subjected to proper testing, and employees should be made aware of their responsibilities in the event of a disaster. The plan should be updated when needed in order to maintain readiness for a disaster scenario.

Board of Supervisors' Response

The current disaster plan will be updated, approved, and implemented to include normal daily activities such as backup and restore as well as the procedures to be followed in a "disaster" or emergency, staff trained in their responsibilities in such an event, the plan will be tested annually to ensure the recovery of vital functions in a timely manner. The plan will be reviewed and updated by the Board of Supervisors annually. Expected completion of entire disaster plan process is within 6 -7 months (February 1, 2016).

Significant Deficiency

2014-004. The County should perform periodic access reviews.

Finding

We noted during our review, that the County does not have a formal process for removing logical access for terminated employees. We also noted that the County does not periodically review the levels of access that active users have and determine if the access is appropriate.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Recommendation

We recommend that the County implement a periodic review of logical access for all individual users.

Board of Supervisors' Response

An access control policy will be established to address user rights to ensure that users can only access programs that are needed to perform their functions and no more. In addition, the policy will address reviewing user's access rights annually, upon hire and deletion of credentials upon termination. Expected to be completed by September 1, 2015.

Chancery Clerk.

Material Weakness

2014-005. Controls over cash collections and disbursements in the Chancery Clerk's office should be strengthened.

Finding

An effective system of internal control should include an adequate segregation of duties. As reported in the prior three years' audit reports, cash collections and disbursement functions are not adequately segregated for effective internal control. One employee receipts cash, prepares deposit slips, posts to the detail general ledger, reconciles the bank statements and disburses all funds. Failure to have an adequate segregation of duties could result in the loss of public funds.

Recommendation

Accounting functions involving receipting and disbursing of funds, recording of funds and reconciling of accounts should be properly segregated.

Chancery Clerk's Response

With only three employees in this office, it is impossible to completely segregate responsibilities; however, as much as possible, we try to do so.

Circuit Clerk.

Material Weakness

2014-006. Controls over cash collections and disbursements in the Circuit Clerk's office should be strengthened.

Finding

An effective system of internal control should include an adequate segregation of duties. As reported in the prior three years' audit reports, cash collection and disbursement functions in the Circuit Clerk's office are not adequately segregated for effective internal control. The Circuit Clerk receipts cash, posts the cash journal, calculates the monthly settlements and disburses the funds and reconciles the bank statements. Failure to have an adequate segregation of duties could result in the loss of public funds.

Recommendation

The Circuit Clerk should implement a system for review of the accounting records by another person.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended September 30, 2014

Circuit Clerk's Response

With only two (2) individuals in this office, it is impossible to completely segregate responsibilities; however, as much as possible, we try to do so. As much as possible, my deputy clerk receipts and deposits the funds coming into this office. When making a deposit, she prints a "Deposit Report" which lists, among other things, a receipt number, the payor of the funds received, and the amount of each payment. I then print a "Cash Journal" which lists, among other things, a receipt number, the payor of the funds received, the amount of each payment received, and breaks the funds down, i.e., clerk's fees, law library, copies, record search, etc. The "Report Total" on the Deposit Report and the "Ending Balance" on the Cash Journal must be the same. My deputy clerk has limited access to our system and does not have access to the Cash Journal.

Tax Collector.

Material Weakness

2014-007. Controls over cash collections and disbursements in the Tax Collector's office should be strengthened.

Finding

An effective system of internal control should include an adequate segregation of duties. As reported in the prior three years' audit reports, cash collection and disbursement functions in the Tax Collector's office are not adequately segregated for effective internal control. The Tax Collector receipts cash, prepares deposits, calculates the monthly settlements, posts the cash journal, reconciles the bank statements and disburses all funds. Failure to have an adequate segregation of duties could result in the loss of public funds.

Recommendation

The Tax Collector should implement a system for review of the accounting records by another person.

Tax Collector's Response

I will try to comply as best I can to get help with the accounting records.

Section 3: Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

The results of our tests did not disclose any findings and questioned costs related to federal awards.